

## WOMEN CONVICTS RESCUED FROM FIRE

Workhouse on Blackwell's  
Island Is Destroyed.

ONE THOUSAND IN PERIL

"Trusties" and Firemen in New York  
Prison Perform Deeds of  
Heroism.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—One thousand frantic, screaming women convicts were hurried from their cells and rushed to safety just in time to escape the flames that were roaring through the women's building of the workhouse on Blackwell's Island early today.

Fifty of the women who were helpless in the prison hospital were carried out of the reach of the fire by "trusties" and firemen of the island engine company.

The women's prison was practically destroyed, the flames quickly eating their way down from the top floor to the ground and gutting the entire structure.

Two fire boats, two engine companies, and a truck company were sent from Manhattan, and the firemen battled all night to save the administration building and the men's prison, which had a narrow escape from destruction.

A large force of police reserves also were sent to the island to guard the male convicts, who were terror-stricken in the cells, and caused much excitement by their yells of fear.

Trustees prisoners aided the police and workhouse guards in maintaining order as best they could throughout the wildest night Blackwell's Island has known in years.

Had it not been for the device by which all the cells in a range can be opened by the turn of a single lever, many of the women prisoners would have perished in the flames. The rapid spread of the fire made it impossible to have opened the doors one at a time by the old method.

Long after they had been taken out of the burning building, and sheltered temporarily in the almshouse and the laundry in the administration building, the women were hysterical and screamed and cried in turns. Male "trusties" and matrons and nurses were compelled to stand guard over them the whole night.

## AFRICANS SING KAFFIR AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Are Lincoln Students and Will Give  
Native Entertainment in Wash-  
ington Church Tonight.

A group of South African students attending Lincoln University called at Howard University this morning to make a tour of inspection. After being introduced to President Gordon and the student body, they gave a little entertainment, consisting of songs in the Kaffir language, and short addresses on conditions in Cape Colony.

A. E. Rankin, who heads the party, said today that they are traveling in the interests of the Lincoln University Y. M. C. A., and will give an entertainment to-night at Lincoln Memorial Congregational Church.

They will be clad in their native costumes, which are said to consist of gorgeous skins, set off by feathers and beads. J. W. Nixiwen will give a general sketch of South Africa. The club's sextet will sing two African songs, entitled "Igaqa Elugagagani" and "Bawo Ndinga Mtwana." These will be followed by instrumental music, under the direction of J. W. Lillard.

## HEAD CUT BY PITCHFORK IN QUARREL IN DAIRY

In an altercation in Gregg's dairy, 632 O street northwest, this morning, Thomas Batton, twenty-seven years old, of 2207 H street, was today offered on the head with a pitchfork by James Colbert, colored, thirty years old, and received a severe scalp wound. He was taken to the Homeopathic Hospital and later went to his home.

## PROPERTY LEFT TO CHILDREN.

The will of Elvira Frances Adams, dated October 27, 1890, was today offered for probate. She leaves her personal effects to her daughters and directs that her stock in the Columbia National Bank be sold and the proceeds be divided among her six children.



THE ROYAL "BLUE" LINE.

## ALEXANDRIA NEWS NOTES

WASHINGTON TIMES BUREAU,  
ALEXANDRIA, VA., DEC. 20.

Three colored men were seen stealing several packages of groceries from a carriage in front of a store at King and St. Asaph streets yesterday afternoon. The police were notified, but upon their arrival the thieves fled, followed by the policemen.

The chase was exciting, but the men were caught. At the station house they gave their names as Richard McGuire, Madison Jackson, and William Jackson. Later policemen recovered the stolen packages.

This morning Justice Caton imposed a fine of \$10, and a jail sentence of six months upon each of them.

## RECHABITES ELECT.

Perseverance Tent of Rechabites has elected the following officers: W. L. Griffin, P. C. R.; James B. Hughes, chief ruler; Mrs. Annie Fow, deputy ruler; Lambert D. Lyles, shepherd; Walter R. Newlon, recording secretary; Joseph F. Glover, financial secretary; Mrs. Margaret Hughes, treasurer; H. K. Henderson, levite; Edward Diedrich, inside guard; James R. Cliff, outside guard.

## ST. ASAPH FOR UNCLE SAM.

It is reported in this city that the Government is contemplating the purchase of the old St. Asaph race track.

## MORE SMALLPOX CASES ON NORTHUMBERLAND

Second Outbreak Discovered by Health  
Authorities, Which They Trace  
to Baltimore.

A second outbreak of smallpox on the steamer Northumberland was discovered last night by the health authorities, and three of the crew, Richard Wright, a colored coal passer, thirty years old; James Johnson, and Robert Baylor, both colored deck hands, respectively seventeen and twenty-two years old, were removed to the quarantine station.

The health authorities are convinced that Baylor brought the disease from Baltimore, from which place he shipped only a few hours before the steamer left for this city on Monday night. The two other cases have been traced to contact with Thomas Jordan, who was taken from the vessel to the local quarantine station about ten days ago.

The Northumberland was fumigated for the second time, and the bedding used and clothing worn by the sick men destroyed.

The Health Department has at present under observation nearly seventy dwellings in various sections of the city where smallpox is thought to exist.

## PRIVATE WATCHMEN.

The police commissioners will hold their regular monthly meeting at the mayor's office in the city hall this evening. The commissioners will, it is understood, appoint several private watchmen who have been recommended by King street merchants, and will be paid by the merchants.

## POLICE AS EXPRESSMEN.

Mayor Paff has ordered that in the future all wagons for hire will be obliged to stand in the street in front of police headquarters and not in North Royal street, near King, as formerly. The mayor has instructed the policemen on duty at the station house to send any driver of a wagon to a citizen's house when requested by telephone or otherwise.

## ONE YEAR IN PRISON.

In the Corporation Court yesterday Henry Daniels, indicted for maliciously and feloniously shooting, was found guilty of unlawful, but not malicious, shooting and given one year in the State penitentiary at Richmond.

## XMAS ENTERTAINMENT.

The Christmas entertainment of St. Mary's Church Sunday-school will be given at the hall of the Young Men's Sociality Lyceum tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock.

## LADIES OF MACCABEES MEET.

The ladies of the Maccabees met at their hall last evening. Mrs. Amy Weech, who represented the Lady Maccabees of this city at the State Council in Norfolk, read her report.

Get a Good Start for the New Year  
by opening a bank account now. Banking  
dept. of Union Trust Co., 1414 F, will pay  
interest on your savings.

Sanders & Stayman Co.  
"Open Evenings Till Christmas."

## Gifts for the Musically Inclined

Our superb stock of Musical Instruments is very complete, and persons meditating a really nice holiday present can be admirably suited here. This list is proffered of suitable suggestions:

MANDOLINS from .....\$3 up  
BANJOS from .....\$7.50 up  
GUITARS from .....\$3 up  
VIOLINS from .....\$6 up  
MUSIC BOXES from .....50c up  
DRUMS from .....90c up  
AUTOHARPS from .....\$2.25 up  
ACCORDIONS from .....\$1.00 up  
FLUTES from .....\$6 up  
CORNETS from .....\$6 up  
BUGLES from .....25c up  
BATONS from .....50c up  
PICCOLOS from .....\$5 up  
TRIANGLES from .....40c up  
METRONOMES from .....\$2.25 up

Musical Novelties  
See the Musical Pigs, Deer, Elephants, Donkeys, Bears, etc.  
These are very life-like and greatly enjoyed by the children.

PIANOS  
\$150 to \$1,000  
ORGANS  
\$10 to \$500  
Terms to Suit All  
Sheet Music in bound volumes,  
and Music Literature of all kinds.

Sanders & Stayman  
The Leading Piano, Organ, and  
Music House in the Na-  
tional Capital,  
1327 "F" Percy S. Foster,  
Manager.  
Baltimore Store, 15 North Charles  
Street.  
"Everything in the Music Line."

## MYSTIC NUMBER 13 FOLLOWS PERDONI

ASBURY PARK, Dec. 20.—The fatal number thirteen seems to have pursued Frank Perdoni, held as the principal in the murder and robbery of Mrs. Morris Naftali. Just before his arrest he was presented with a bill by a local store-keeper. The amount was \$13.71. "My God," he exclaimed, "that number follows me everywhere." Whereupon he took from his pocket a poolroom slip. It was No. 113. The murder was committed on the 13th, and the \$50 Perdoni borrowed to save his little shop was obtained February 13, last year.

J. H. Small & Sons, Florists,  
15th and G sts., Washington; Waldorf,  
Astoria and 1155 B'dway, New York. No  
order too large or too small to fill.

Special Prices For Xmas.  
Fine Old Fort. Sherry, Blackberry,  
and Catawba Wine for 75c and \$1.00  
per gallon.  
All leading brands of Beer, \$1.00 and  
\$1.25 per case.  
All phone or mail orders promptly  
delivered.  
THOS. R. BEAVERS,  
Phone Main 1006 R. 423 4 1/2 St. S. W.

## WOULD RATHER "ROT" THAN PAY HIS FINE

POTTSTOWN, Pa., Dec. 20.—Declaring that he "would rot in jail rather than pay it," Reuben Emerich was taken to Norristown prison yesterday in default of \$2 fine, imposed upon him for failure to send his son to school.

The penalty is only one day's imprisonment for each dollar fine unpaid, and Reuben will therefore return home in ample time to eat his Christmas dinner.

Present Flowers at Christmas.

A delicate attention that will win full  
measure of appreciation. Guide, 1214 F.

Man's Solid Gold \$7.50 Signet  
Ring.  
\$5.00  
ENGRAVED FREE  
Others from  
\$1.25 to \$20.  
This coupon will entitle you to 10 per cent  
discount on our stock of Jewels.  
BAUM'S, 707 7th St. N.W.  
Established 1820.

Open Evenings  
The House of Quality  
Mayer & Company  
415 and 417 Seventh St.  
LADIES' DESKS  
AT BARGAIN  
PRICES  
This Desk  
\$4.19  
Quartered oak or mahogany finish, heavy French legs, large drawer, brass trimmings, nicely polished and well made. A regular \$7 value.  
Fine \$20 Desks for .....\$15.75  
Fluently Figured Quartered Oak or Mahogany; French legs, three large drawers, brass handles, full swell front, strong, pretty, and well made.  
Morris Chair Specials  
\$7.50 Morris Chairs \$4.48  
Selected oak frame, shaped arms and turned spindles; good quality cushions upholstered in velvet.  
\$18 Morris Chairs \$14.48  
Quartered oak or birch, mahogany finish, heavy circular arms, turned spindles, spring seat; fine hair-filled cushions upholstered in velvet.

OPEN EVENINGS  
LADIES' APPAREL  
FOR CHRISTMAS  
\$19 Covert Coats, \$15.75  
All-wool English Covert Coats; tight fitting backs, box fronts, double breasted, collarless, with fancy stitching; well seamed; full sleeves, and lined to the waist with satin.  
\$5.50 Silk Skirts, \$3.79  
Rustling Taffeta, in black and colors, tucked flounce and dust ruffle.  
\$7.50 Silk Skirts, \$5.98  
Rustling Taffeta, in green, blue, garnet, and black; accordion plaited flounce with rose quilting and dust ruffle.  
\$7 Furs, \$4.68  
Isabella Opossum Skins, fine quality of fur, eight full bushy tails, trimmed with silk ornaments and lined with satin.  
WE WILL TRUST YOU  
MAYER & COMPANY  
415-417 Seventh Street

SKANN-SONS & CO  
8th St. & Pa. Ave.  
"THE BUSY CORNER"  
Order candies tonight  
Or the first thing tomorrow  
Don't wait until Friday or Saturday as there will be a  
greater rush than ever before  
12c pound  
Buys Pure Candies—45 kinds.  
19c pound  
Buys Pure Candies—40 kinds.  
30c pound  
Buys 30 kind of Chocolates.  
We get these candies fresh  
every day—and we get them  
from a factory of known  
reputation. We know they  
are pure. Two big booths—  
center of store. First floor.  
See the  
special  
5-pound box  
of  
"Dorothy  
Winwood"  
Chocolates at  
99c per box  
Kind regularly  
sold at 35c lb.

Toys greatly  
reduced  
Be sure and see those in 25c room  
The reduced toys are many, but every kind is in limited quantity. The plums will go to the early comers. There are dozens of lots reduced, of which no mention can be made because of there being only a few of a kind, and they might be gone before you could get here.  
SEE THEM on fourth floor—fifth floor, and third floor.

THE BEST BARGAINS OF THE  
COAT  
SALE  
This is a great chance for the  
practical giver  
—Most of the cold weather, as well as  
the coldest, yet to come. And sale  
prices are lower than we usually have  
in January. This time the exception is  
the rule—the best values are in the  
coats that are also lowest in price.  
\$12 long coats, mixed  
cloths, for \$8.50  
This lot is one of the best sellers we've  
had this season. Right smart in style,  
and of the right weight. They are  
practical, good looking coats instead of  
the dressy sort. Made extra full with  
loose back; all sizes in both light and  
dark mixtures.  
\$15 kersey empire coats at  
\$11.95  
About fifty of those \$35 and  
\$40 evening coats at \$25  
With the near approach of the  
evening dress period this sale as-  
sumes growing importance—need  
and economy.  
Have coats in this lot in white,  
black, and all the delicate shades—  
blue, stripes, finished  
with silk crochet edge  
—sizes, 4 to 10 years—  
25c and 50c  
Second floor.

Children's wearables  
That make good gifts  
Look to the child's comfort as well as amusement at Christmastide.  
These items give an idea of what they should have this winter:  
Children's Sweaters,  
in red, blue, and white.  
Sizes 2 to 5 years.  
\$1.00 to \$2.25  
Infants' White Mitts  
that vary in price from  
15c to 39c  
Children's White and  
Colored Wool Toggles  
—best for winter—  
25c, 39c, 50c  
Children's Elderdown  
Bath Robes, in red,  
light blue, and striped  
effects; some with  
yoke, trimmed in satin  
and Dresden ribbon  
folds, some finished  
with cord and tassels.  
Sizes 4 to 14 years.  
\$2.00 and \$3.00  
Children's Outing  
Flannel Kimonos, in  
pretty pink and light  
blue stripes, finished  
with silk crochet edge  
—sizes, 4 to 10 years—  
25c and 50c  
Second floor.

Cut prices on gift things in  
Upholstery section  
You can save tomorrow on just the things that people want Santa  
Claus to bring them.  
SOFA PILLOWS—With all-silk  
tapestry cover; silkateen back;  
light colors; finished with silk  
tassels at each corner.  
24-in. square. Reduced  
from \$2.00 to .....\$1.25  
SOFA PILLOWS—In plain col-  
ors of red, green, and blue; ap-  
pliques in contrasting col-  
ors; 24-in. square. Reduced  
from \$1.00 to .....75c  
JOHN BROMLEY'S Best All-  
wool Symrna Rugs; size 30x60-in.,  
in Oriental and conventional de-  
signs. Regular \$4.00. \$2.99  
kind. Our price.....  
\$4 FRENCH GORELIN Tap-  
stry Table Covers, finished with  
deep tassels, fringes, all around  
choice of many pretty patterns  
and colors. Regular \$4. \$3.25  
kind. Our price.....  
Third Floor.

Fine Diamonds  
For Christmas  
OUR stock of Fine Diamonds  
is deserving of special inter-  
est, owing to the daily increasing  
difficulty of procuring diamonds  
of PURE WATER, flawless,  
and scientifically cut.  
When QUALITY is considered, our prices  
are ALWAYS THE LOWEST.  
Open Every Night Until Christmas  
GALT & BRO.  
Established Over a Century  
Jewellers, Silversmiths, Stationers  
1107 Pennsylvania Avenue